

June 8, 2010

1400 CST

Water Quality Protection Division



Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill, Gulf of Mexico Region 6 Update

Subject: **Water Quality Division Update # 27**
 Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill, Gulf of Mexico

Date: June 8, 2010

Reporting Period: June 8, 2010 1300 – June 9, 2010 1300

Forecast

- The nearshore oil forecast created by NOAA on 6/7/10 at 2100 CDT for 6/8/10 at 1200 CDT (Figure 1) indicates that the main part of the oil slick will be east of Louisiana. Shoreline impacts are predicted to be from Dauphin Island, AL east towards Freeport, FL. Weak offshore winds have remained variable but it is forecast that onshore winds will be out of the southeast and east-southeast through Friday at 10 knots. Any small portions of the oil slick west of the delta are expected to have shoreline impacts between Timbalier Bay and Southwest Pass.
- The offshore oil forecast created by NOAA on 6/7/10 at 1900 CDT for 6/7/10 at 1200 CDT (Figure 2). The sheen still remains in an eddy on the northern edge of the Loop Current but some is moving southerly along the eastern edge of this eddy and the remainder may become entrained in another eddy to the northeast. NOAA overflights conducted through the Florida Strait reported no visible oil slick.

Monitoring and Assessment

- Continuing to coordinate with the REOC Environmental Unit on the review of incoming water and sediment quality monitoring data, including results from water samples analyzed for dispersants and sediment toxicity testing results.
- Providing input on R6 dispersant sampling and data analysis activities for Administrator briefing.
- Providing additional toxicity options for EU consideration in light of Rotox control failures (i.e. dinoflagellate bioluminescence toxicity).
- Attending regular meetings and calls with Region 4, HQ, & REOC.

Drinking Water

- Drinking water intakes, public drinking water wells, and domestic wells have not been impacted by the oil sheen and are not projected to be impacted.
- EPA Region 6 is providing the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (LDHH) daily situation report as well as data summaries as they become available.
- EPA Region 6 continues to coordinate closely with the LDHH on all drinking water issues.

Data Management – Mapping Efforts

- Updated the Shoreline Coastal Assessment Team (SCAT) and spill trajectory data.

NPDES

- Participated in conference call on NPDES vs. Marine, Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) issues regarding decant water from oil recovery efforts in the Gulf.
- NPDES Permits and TMDL Branch continues to be available to provide technical assistance as needed.

Coastal Programs

Louisiana Large-Scale Coastal Barrier Plan:

- Coastal staff will participate in an interagency meeting hosted by the Corps on June 8, 2010, to discuss a monitoring plan for the six approved sections.
- Extensive coordination is being conducted through OW regarding implementation of the permit accepted by the State and associated implementation issues. Ongoing coordination regarding the State's full application and final engineering designs.
- Times Picayune (www.Nola.com) reports that BP has set up a 360 million dollar escrow account and the state awarded the contract to construct the berms to Shaw Group.

Corps Emergency Authorizations for Coastal Protection Features:

- Coordination is ongoing with the Corps, OW, and Region 4 on a continuing series of emergency authorization requests for incremental work to install booms, sand bags, tiger dams, concrete blocks, and similar structures in the Chandeleur Sound, Barataria Bay, Terrebonne Bay, and adjoining waterways.

OW Ecological Impact Analyses:

- Coastal staff participated in calls with Regional Counsel, Region 4, and OW regarding the potential application of NPDES and/or Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (MPRSA) to discharges of water from skimmers at sea and from vessels transporting water from shore-based treatment facilities back out to ocean waters.
- Follow up discussions continue regarding the Administrator's June 5, 2010, meeting with scientific experts to discuss marsh protection and marsh remediation alternatives and techniques.

- Ongoing coordination, through OW, with the Association of National Estuary Programs and NEP Directors regarding baseline characterization data, habitat and restoration priorities, and a request to OWOW to provide a bridge between the NRDA process and the NEPs.

Corps Navigation Maintenance Dredging:

- Coastal programs staff developed and provided OW with a discussion paper on regulatory issues related to mining the EPA-designated ODMDS as a borrow site for berm construction and the ramifications regarding continued use of the site for disposal of navigation maintenance dredging material. OW, Region 6, and Region 4 expanded the concept and prepared a first draft discussion paper on the wider topic of “Dredged Material and Ocean Dumping Sites Potentially Impacted by the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill.”
- Some shoaling and flocculation is being reported in SW Pass and three hopper dredges are working in the pass. Two of these dredges have been requested by the State to be redirected to work on the sand berm project.
- The Corps is employing oil detection kits on the dredges, a technique coordinated with EPA and Corps research facilities during the 2008 Mississippi River oil spill. In addition, new ship decontamination sites have been established in the lower Mississippi River and Southwest Pass which may be within the area of influence of the EPA-designated ocean disposal site.
- Discussions are underway regarding marsh remediation efforts and initial agency coordination is occurring regarding monitoring the long-term landscape-scale coastal habitat impacts.

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)

- EPA engaged with OCPR in discussions with other state officials to get access for contractors to finish plantings on Whiskey Island as part of TE-50, Whiskey Island Back Barrier Marsh Creation (EPA Sponsored) and TE-52, Barrier Island Vegetation Demonstration (EPA Sponsored).
- Coordinated with 6WQ-IN to develop a map that shows the CWPPRA projects that are in the vicinity of reported oiled shorelines (Figure 3).
- Based upon the shoreline impact assessment map (Figure 4) and the EPA OSC shoreline cleanup efforts (Table 1), there have been no changes to the list of CWPPRA projects in the vicinity of oil impacted areas since 6/4/10.

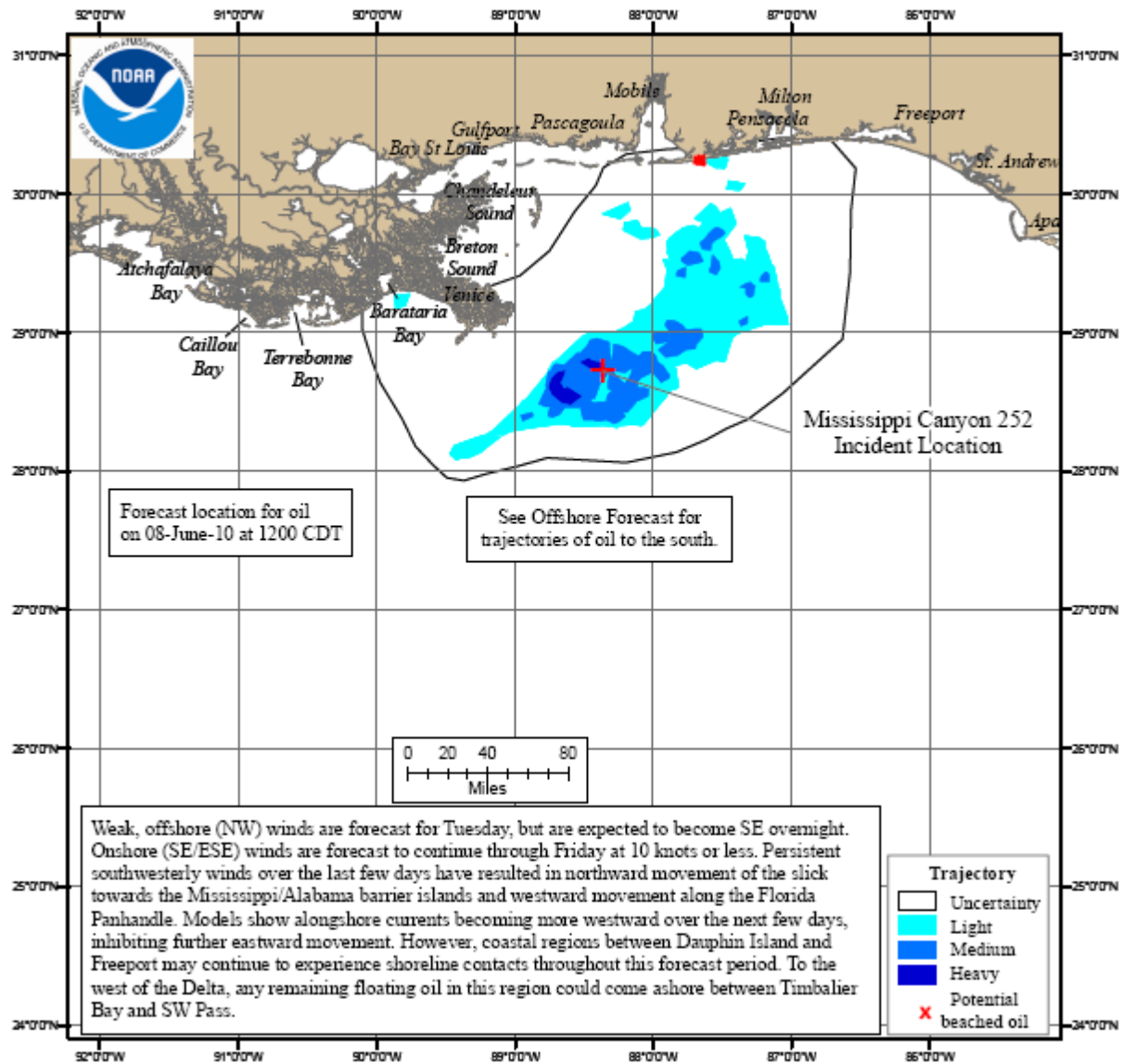


Figure 1 NOAA nearshore oil slick trajectory forecast for 6/8/10.
<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doctype/2931/53979/>

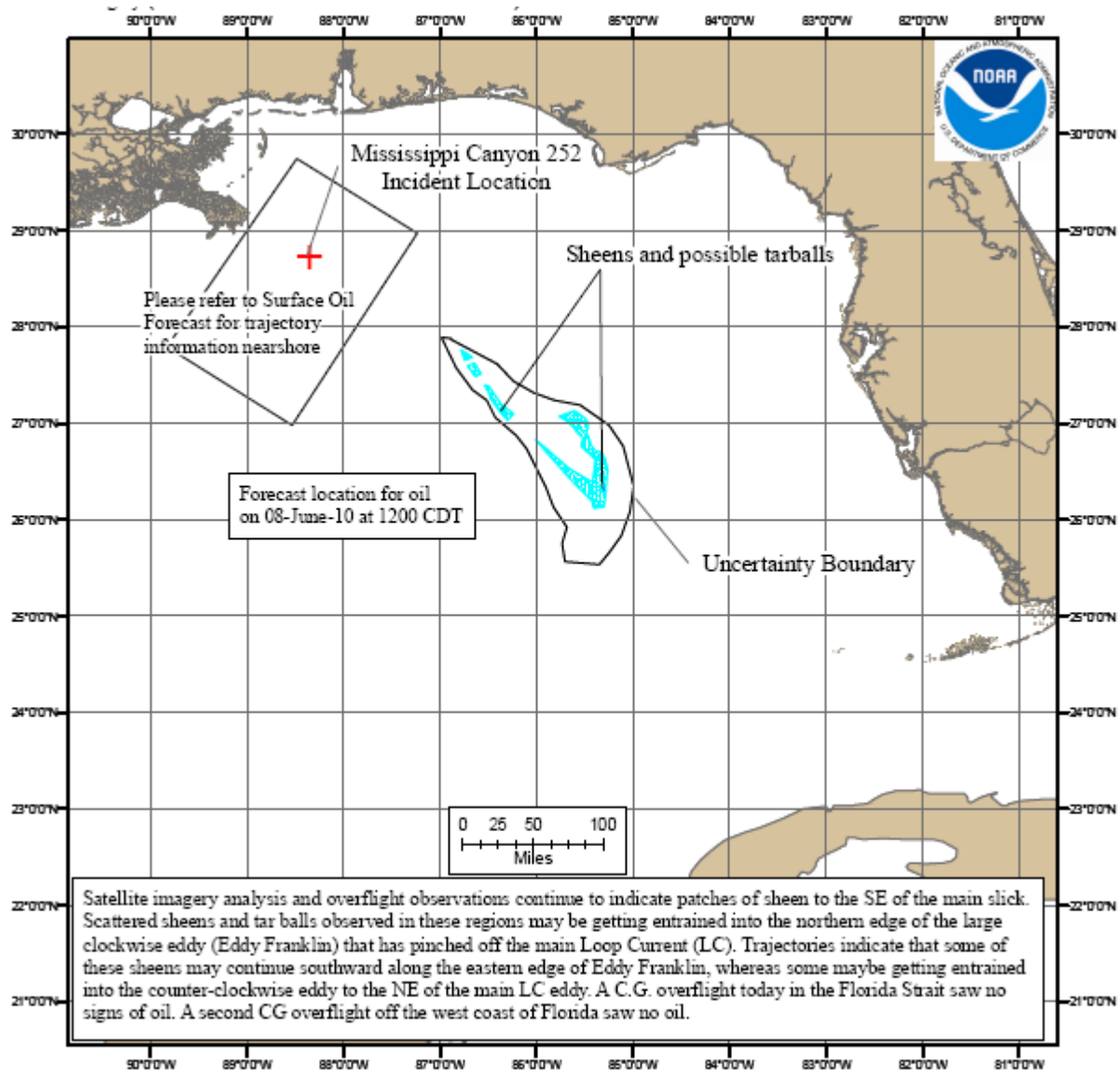


Figure 2 NOAA offshore oil slick trajectory forecast for 6/8/10.

<http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doctype/2931/53979/>

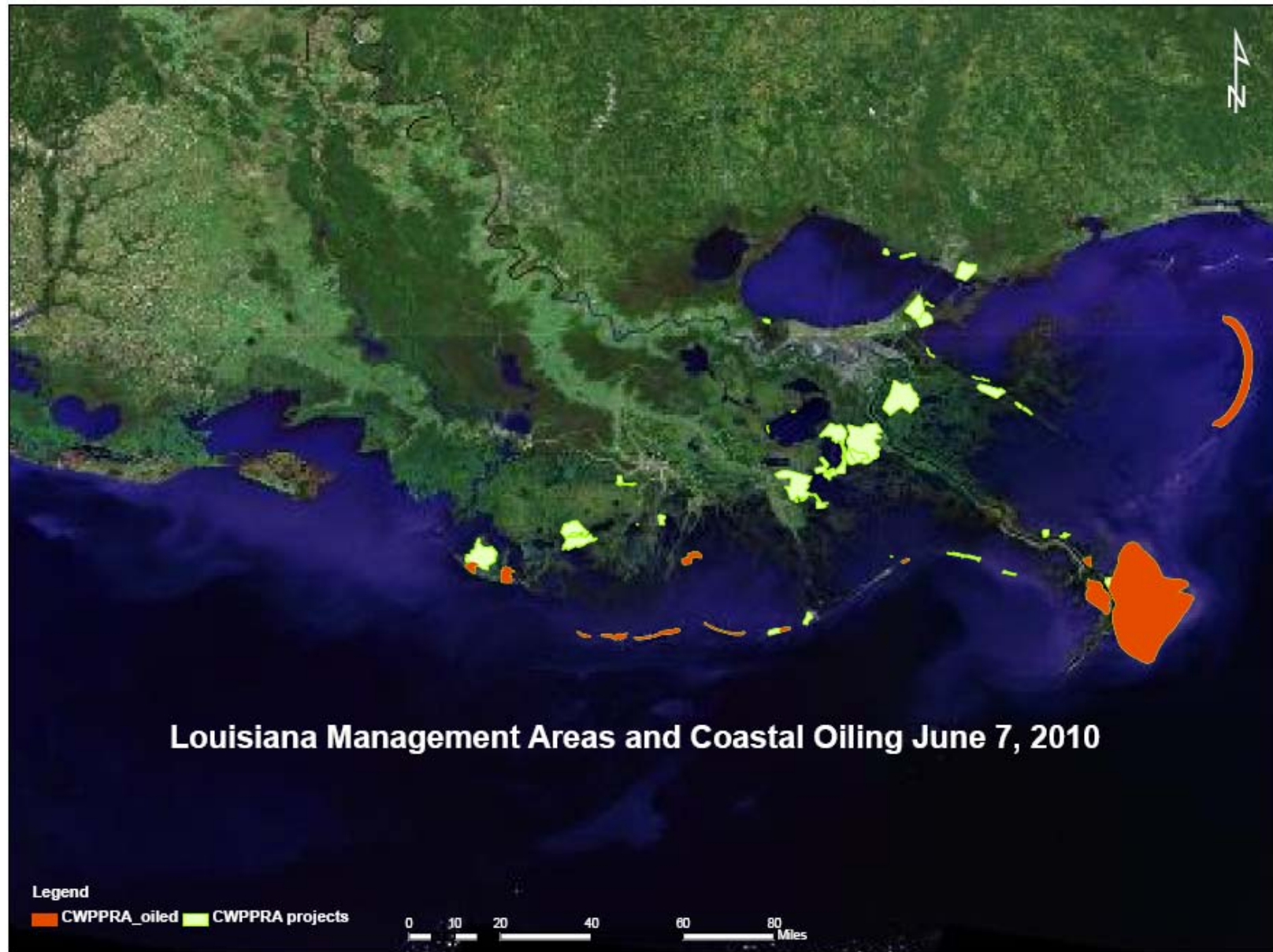


Figure 3 Map depicting CWPPRA projects in the vicinity of reported oiled shorelines (orange) and all other constructed CWPPRA projects (yellow).

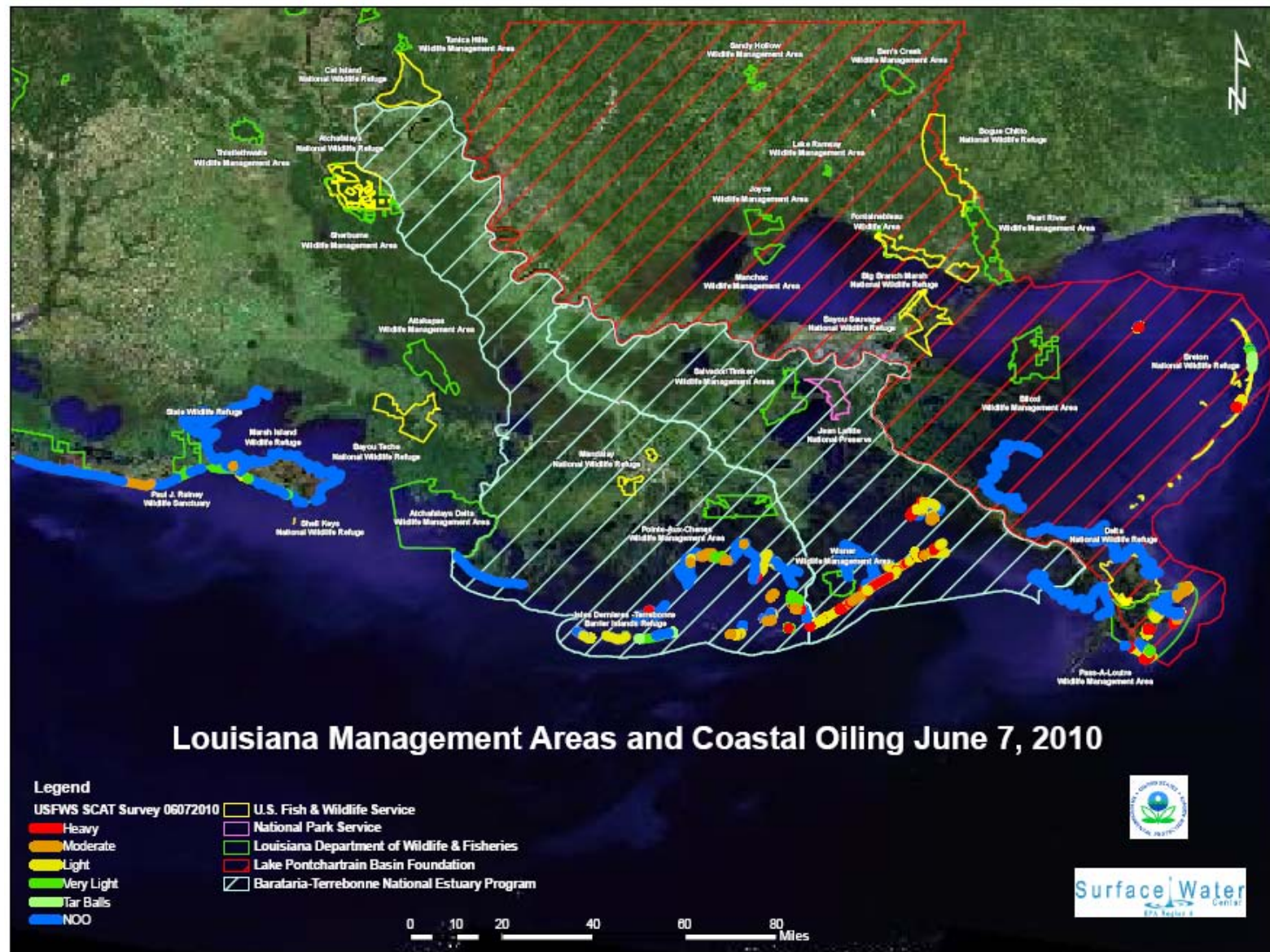


Figure 4 Oil impact assessment map including Barataria Terrebonne National Estuary Program, Lake Ponchartrain Basin Foundation boundaries and reported oiled shorelines.

Shoreline Impact Areas	Stage	Parish	Miles Impacted	Progress
Southpass Inner Sandbar	Venice	Plaquemines	2.78	80% complete
Pilot Bayou/Johnson Pass	Venice	Plaquemines	1.5	using containment boom
Pass a L'outre/Red Fish Bay	Venice	Plaquemines	4	70% complete, 43bbls removed
Inner Area Southpass	Venice	Plaquemines	1.49	
Chandeleur Island	Hopedale	St. Bernard	7.2	100% complete, ST more oiling, booming
Grand Isle/Elmer's Island	Grand Isle	Jefferson	7.6	Heavy Re-Oiling 6/03/10, 85% complete
Isle Grande Terre	Grand Isle	Plaquemines	1.77	shoreline cleanup ops
Brush Island	Hopedale	St. Bernard	1.33	100% complete
Lake Raccourci	Fourchon	LaFourche	0.8	light
Chenier Au Tigre	St. Mary	Vermillion	0.7	100% complete
Trinity Island	Cocodrie	Terrebonne	0.48	minor re-oiling, 1 day till 100%
Fourchon Beach	Fourchon	LaFourche	3.75	90% complete
Timbalier Bay	Fourchon	LaFourche	0.43	sorbent boom change out
Lake Felicity	Cocodrie	Terrebonne	1	sorbent boom change out
Marsh Island	St. Mary	Iberia	0.4	100% complete
Marsh Island	St. Mary	Iberia	0.2	100% complete

Table 1 Deepwater Horizon shoreline impacts and status of cleanup. Information provided by EPA On Scene Coordinator web page. Created for 6/6/10